

**Maine Revised Statutes**  
**Title 17-A: MAINE CRIMINAL CODE**  
**Chapter 33: ARSON AND OTHER PROPERTY DESTRUCTION**

**§802. ARSON**

1. A person is guilty of arson if he starts, causes, or maintains a fire or explosion;

A. On the property of another with the intent to damage or destroy property thereon; or [ 1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW) . ]

B. On his own property or the property of another

(1) with the intent to enable any person to collect insurance proceeds for the loss caused by the fire or explosion; or

(2) which recklessly endangers any person or the property of another. [ 1983, c. 450, §4 (AMD) . ]

[ 1983, c. 450, §4 (AMD) . ]

2. In a prosecution under subsection 1, paragraph B, the requirements of specificity in the charge and proof at the trial otherwise required by law do not include a requirement to allege or prove the ownership of the property. In a prosecution under subsection 1, paragraph A, it is a defense that the actor reasonably believed he had the permission of the property owner to engage in the conduct alleged. In a prosecution under subsection 1, paragraph A, "property of another" has the same meaning as in section 352, subsection 4.

[ 1975, c. 740, §86 (AMD) . ]

3. Arson is a Class A crime.

[ 1979, c. 322, §2 (AMD) . ]

**SECTION HISTORY**

1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW). 1975, c. 740, §86 (AMD). 1979, c. 322, §2 (AMD). 1983, c. 450, §4 (AMD).

---

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 127th Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2016. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.